

A NEW SPECIES OF *AGERATINA* (ASTERACEAE, EUPATORIEAE) FROM
NUEVO LEON, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

A new species of *Ageratina*, *A. viejoana* B.L. Turner, is described from Cerro Viejo, southern Nuevo León. It appears on technical characters to belong to the subgenus *Ageratina*, having the pubescent corollas of the species of that taxon, but on total characters it seems closest to species belonging to the subgenus *Neogreenella*.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Eupatorieae, *Ageratina*, México

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed the following novelty.

Ageratina viejoana B.L. Turner, *sp. nov.* TYPE: MEXICO. Nuevo León: Mpio. Zaragoza, Cerro El Viejo, oak and pine woods, 2405 m, 12 Oct 1992, *Hinton et al.* 22484 (HOLOTYPE: TEX!).

Speciei Mexici *Ageratinae perezii* B.L. Turner similis sed foliis tenuioribus petiolis gracilibus multo longioribus (30-35 mm longis vs. 10-15 mm longis) et corollis purpurascentibus (vs. albis) differt.

Suffrutescent herbs or subshrubs ca. 60 cm high. Stems striate, greenish, densely pubescent with glandular-puberulent hairs 0.1-0.2 mm high. Midstem leaves 10-12 cm long, 5-6 cm wide; petioles 3.0-3.5 cm long; blades deltoid to subcordate, 3-nervate from the very base, moderately soft-puberulent beneath, the margins crenulate. Heads ca. 20, arranged in terminal loose bracteate cymes, the ultimate peduncles mostly 5-20 mm long, densely glandular-puberulent. Involucres campanulate, the bracts ca. 13, subequal, 8-10 mm long, densely glandular-puberulent. Receptacle plane, glabrous. Florets 15-20 per head (estimated). Corollas ca. 6.5 mm long, pinkish-purple, the tube ca. 2 mm

long, the lobes ca. 1 mm long, decidedly pubescent with multiseptate hairs. Achenes (immature) cylindric, ca. 2.5 mm long, hispidulous; pappus of 20-30 fragile bristles ca. 5.5 mm long.

ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN EXAMINED: same locality and date as type, *Hinton et al.* 22504 (TEX).

This species and *Ageratina perezii*, with which it is compared in the above diagnosis, belong to the subgenus *Ageratina* as defined by King & Robinson (1987), both having the fragile pappus and pubescent corollas of that subgenus. Nevertheless, both clearly resemble the widespread *A. cardiophylla* (B.L. Robins.) R.M. King & H. Robins., having the foliage and vestiture of that taxon. *Ageratina cardiophylla* belongs to the subgenus *Neogreenella*, the latter technically recognized by its tubular, glabrous corollas. It would appear that the "defining characters" of these two subgenera occasionally break down among those species of México having cordate leaves, or else cordate leaves have arisen in parallel in both.

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